Cultivation of herbal plants

†654. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to encourage the cultivation of herbal plants in the country in view of increasing demand of ayurvedic medicines abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether some Union Ministries and State Governments have also been included in this programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has set up Medicinal Plants Board to look after policy formulation, coordination with Ministries/Departments, ensuring sustained availability of medicinal plants and to coordinate all matters relating to their development and sustainable use. The Board has implemented Contractual Farming Scheme under which financial assistance @ 30% of the project cost, maximum upto Rs. 9.00 lacs, is provided to farmers/growers for cultivation of identified medicinal plants.

The Board is headed by Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and has representatives of Union Ministries concerned and State Governments as members. State level Boards have also been set up in 27 States and 5 UTs to coordinate matters at State/UT level.

PHCs in Punjab

655. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres functioning in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab;

(b) whether these Centres are adequate to meet the need of general public of the District; and

(c) whether Government proposes to open new centres there in near future?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per the information obtained from Government of Punjab there are 37 Primary Health Centres functioning in Hoshiarpur Distt. of Punjab.

(b) and (c) According to the Information received from the State Government these Centres are adequate to meet the needs of the general public in the district. As such no new centres are proposed to be opened in the district.

Withdrawal of anti-constipation medicines in CGHS

656. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ayurvedic anti-constipation medicines namely 'RECHAK' and 'SUKHDATA' have been withdrawn during 2004-2005 by CGHS Delhi and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the names of other ayurvedic medicines withdrawn by CGHS, Delhi during 2003, 2004 and 2005 and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the medicines introduced in lieu of each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The formulary in respect of medicines procured for CGHS is reviewed every two years. Rechak and Sukhdata which were there in the formulary of 2002-2004 were not included in the formulary of 2004-2006 due to recommendations of the Purchase Advisory Committee (PAC) for Ayurvedic drugs, headed by Deputy Adviser, as equally effective Ayurveda medicines were available at less cost.

The list of Ayurvedic medicines which were withdrawn by CGHS Delhi from the old formulary (2002-2004) and also medicines introduced in the new formulary in lieu of the same for the year 2004-2006 on the recommendation of the Purchase Advisory Committee is enclosed as Statement.